

Attorney Docket No.: 2001P12908US

REMARKS

Claims 1-28 were examined. Upon entry of the present amendment, claims 29-38 are hereby added to more particularly claim Applicants' invention. Claims 1-38 are now pending. Applicants hereby request further examination and reconsideration of the application in view of the following remarks.

Claims 1-28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by McBride et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,923,752). Applicants' traverse the rejections of these claims for at least the following reasons.

Independent claim 1 recites a mobile telephone comprising "a core assembly for supporting at least one functional component of the mobile telephone; and a shell for substantially enclosing the core assembly, wherein the shell is molded as a single piece around the core assembly. Similarly, independent claim 12 recites a method for assembling a mobile telephone comprising "molding a shell about the functional core assembly, the shell substantially enclosing the functional core assembly" while independent claim 22 further recites "placing the functional core assembly in a molding apparatus; molding a shell about the functional core assembly, the shell substantially enclosing the functional core assembly; and removing the mobile telephone from the molding apparatus after molding of the shell. Molding of the shell over the core assembly is described, in accordance with an exemplary embodiment, in the specification which provides:

Turning again to FIG. 3, the core assembly assembled at step 302 is then placed in the molding apparatus or tool at step 304. The shell of the telephone is then molded about the core assembly at step 308. The completed mobile telephone may then be removed from the molding apparatus at step 310. For instance, in the embodiment shown in FIG. 4C, 4D and 4E, the core assembly 418 is then placed within mold assembly 424. A support 420 is attached to core assembly 418 of the mobile telephone 400, for example, to I/O connector 422. In exemplary embodiments, mold assembly 424 includes a first mold half 426 and a second mold half 428, which when closed together, as shown in FIG. 4D, form a cavity 430 about core assembly 418 shaped to mold the front, back and side surfaces of the shell 432 of mobile telephone 400 (FIG. 4E). During molding, support 420 positions core assembly 418

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within cavity 430 so that core assembly is correctly positioned within the shell 432 of the mobile telephone 400. As shown in FIG. 4E, once molding of shell 432 is completed, telephone 400 may be removed from mold assembly 424. The mobile telephone 400 may then be painted if necessary, and tested for proper operation. Alternately, techniques such as in-mold decoration (IMD), appliqué molding, and the like may be utilized for application of indicia such as keypad characters, graphical decorations, and the like to shell 432 during molding.

Application, page 8, line 21 through page 9, line 7.

McBride et al. fails to disclose, teach or suggest a mobile telephone or a method of manufacturing a mobile telephone wherein *a shell is molded as a single piece around a functional core assembly* as recited in independent claims 1, 12 and 22, respectively. Moreover, McBride fails to disclose, teach or suggest a method of manufacturing a mobile telephone wherein the functional core assembly is assembled and placed in a molding apparatus for molding of the shell the around the functional core assembly as claimed in claim 22. Instead, McBride, et al. discloses a replaceable outer cover that is attached to the housing of a personal communication device via a clasp so that users can change the color of the device by exchanging one outer cover for another. While McBride et al. does disclose that the outer cover may be manufactured from injected molded and/or vacuum molded plastic, McBride et al. nowhere describes the outer cover is directly molded *about or onto* a functional core. Instead, McBride et al. discloses that the outer cover is a *separately molded* plastic part that is attached to and removed from the housing of the device by the user. Consequently, McBride et al. fails to disclose, teach or suggest molding a shell as a single piece around a functional core assembly to produce a mobile telephone, as presently claimed. Thus, for at least these reasons, independent claims 1, 12 and 22, and their dependent claims, are believed to be patentable over the McBride et al. reference.

Support for new claims 29-38 is found in the specification at page 8, line 21 through page 9, line 7. No new matter is entered. Applicant respectfully submits that the art of record fails to disclose, teach or suggest a mobile telephone, comprising a core assembly for supporting at least one functional component of the mobile telephone; and a shell molded onto the core assembly so that the core assembly is at least substantially encapsulated within the shell, wherein the shell

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provides an external shape to the mobile telephone, as claimed in claims 29-38. Accordingly, claims 29-38 are believed to be patentable over the art of record and the prior art in general.

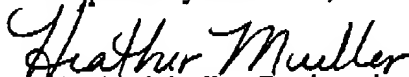
CONCLUSION

Applicant has made an earnest attempt to place this case in condition for allowance. For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and full allowance of all pending claims.

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